

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Lexington

18 Edgewood Rd.

Historic Name Frank D. Brown House

Original Residence

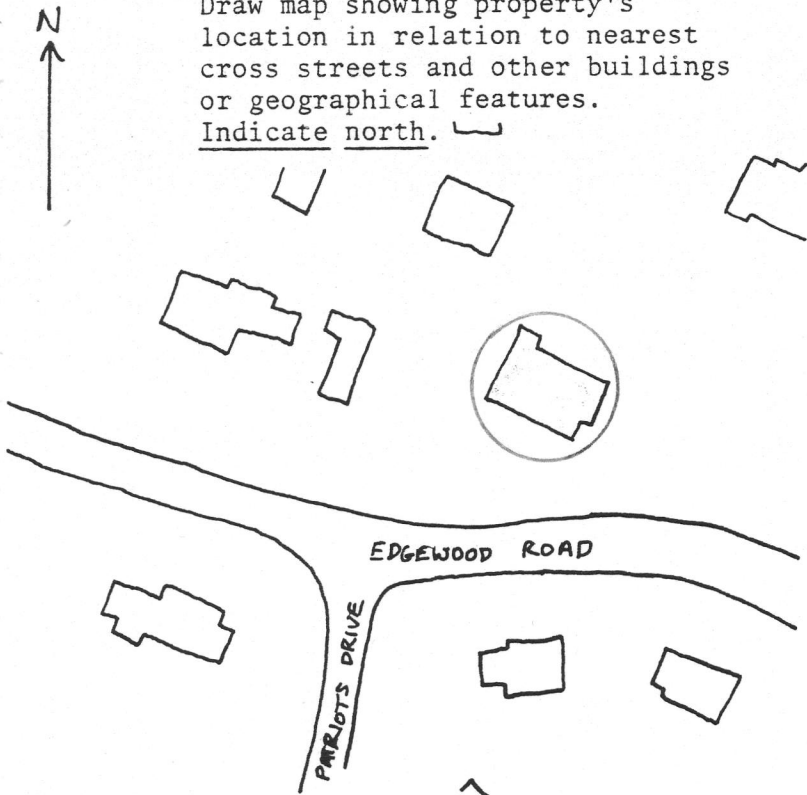
Present Residence

 Ownership: ☒ Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Kelley-Brown

SKETCH MAP

 Draw map showing property's
 location in relation to nearest
 cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.
 Indicate north.


DESCRIPTION:

Date between 1894 and 1898

Source directory and map research

Style Col. Revival (Queen Anne elements)

Architect Willard Brown

Exterior wall fabric white clapboards

Outbuildings 3-car garage

Major alterations (with dates)

New entrance (1955)

Moved Date

Approx. acreage .6 (25818')

 Setting Off Hancock Street where ground
 begins to rise toward Granny Hill; amid
 residences of mixed date.

Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Comm.

Date March, 1984

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This house, built by the eldest son of a successful insurance agent on family land, is suitably ample. Prominent features are the entrance portico with paired Ionic columns, bell cast roof and an unusual dormer with polygonal peaked roof and angled window arrangement which conveys the sense almost of a turret emerging through the roof.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Edgewood Road was laid out before 1898 by the Benjamin F. Brown family extending across their property from Hancock to Meriam streets in a gentle bow. Benjamin F. Brown had a successful insurance agency in Charlestown and had moved to Lexington in 1876. Franklin D. Brown (b. 1860), the eldest son of his four sons, joined him in the business. F.D. Brown was the first to build on the new street. In all three more houses were built on or adjacent to the street by members of the Brown family. The houses, including a second one for Frank D. Brown (at 28 Meriam Street) built in 1906, were designed by B.F. Brown's youngest son Willard.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 71. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Personal communication from Sarah Emily Brown Shoenhut.

1889 atlas

1894 Directory

1898 map